



Public Notice

U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers
Pittsburgh District

In Reply Refer to
Notice No. below

US Army Corps of Engineers, Pittsburgh District
1000 Liberty Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15222-4186

Application No. 200300884

Date: December 1, 2003

Notice No. 03-55

Closing Date: December 20, 2003

1. TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The following application has been submitted for a Department of the Army Permit under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).
2. APPLICANT: West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection, Abandoned Mine Lands & Reclamation Section
105 South Railroad Street
Philippi, WV 26416
3. LOCATION: In two unnamed tributaries to Pringle Run and adjacent wetlands, near Tunnelton, Preston County, West Virginia.
4. PURPOSE AND DESCRIPTION OF WORK: The project purpose is to provide treatment to neutralize the acid mine drainage (AMD) discharging into an unnamed tributary to Pringle Run, a tributary to the Cheat River, at the Blaser Refuse & Portals Project (WD#67). The project consist of both active and passive treatment components at two locations on the project site. At the first site 700 feet of stream channel will be relocated into a limestone rip-rap channel, the coal refuse at this location will be regraded and seeded, and the culverts underneath the access roadway and the railroad will be replaced. The purpose of the stream channelization is to enhance stream hydrology, limit future erosion, and add alkalinity to the water. There are 0.63 acres of wetlands adjacent to the current stream channel that will be adversely impacted by the stream relocation and regrading activities. The stream and adjacent wetlands are degraded by AMD. At the upstream limits of work the pH is 3.1, iron = 9.39 mg/l, aluminum = 8.29 mg/l, and manganese = 1.022 mg/l. At the second location a successive alkaline producing system (SAPS) will be constructed to treat the mine discharge. Four wet-mine seals will be installed and a water collection system will be constructed to capture and direct the mine water to the treatment system. To facilitate construction, 1,300 feet of stream channel will be relocated into a limestone rip-rap channel. The purpose of relocating the channel is to redirect the flow away from the area where the SAPS will be constructed and to add alkalinity to the water. Upstream of the mine discharges the pH of the stream

is 7.1, aluminum = 0.38 mg/l, iron = 0.38 mg/l, and manganese = 0.029 mg/l. Downstream of the mine discharges the pH is 3.0, aluminum = 10.14 mg/l, iron = 36.2 mg/l, and manganese = 0.380 mg/l. Drawings of the proposed project are attached to this notice. Proposed mitigation for the adverse aquatic impacts is the improved downstream water quality.

5. WEST VIRGINIA CERTIFICATION: This permit decision will not be made until the State of West Virginia, Division of Environmental Protection (WVDEP), issues, denies, or waives State Certification. This public notice does not serve as application to the WVDEP for certification required by Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. The applicant must apply directly to the WVDEP for individual water quality certification. The WVDEP will also consider whether or not the proposed activity will comply with sections 301, 302, 303, 306, 307 of the Clean Water Act or any other appropriate State laws. Any person wishing to comment, provide information, and/or request a public hearing concerning certification for this project should write to the:

West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Water & Waste Management
ATTN: Regulatory Review Program
1560 Kanawha Blvd. E.
Charleston, West Virginia 25311
Telephone: 304-558-6649

Re: Public Notice CELRP-OR-F No. 03-55

6. IMPACT ON NATURAL RESOURCES: The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project is not likely to affect the continued existence of any endangered species or threatened species, or result in the destruction or adverse modification of habitat of such species which has been determined to be critical. This Public Notice serves as a request to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service for any additional information they may have on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1972 (as amended).

7. IMPACT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES: The National Register of Historic Places has been consulted, and it has been determined that there are no properties currently listed on the register which would be directly affected by the proposed work. If we are made aware, as a result of comments received in response to this notice, or by other means, of specific archeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical sites or structures which might be affected by the proposed work, the District Engineer will immediately take the appropriate action necessary pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 - Public Law 89-665 as amended (including Public Law 96-515).

8. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in the paragraph below entitled "RESPONSES," that a public hearing be held to consider this application. The requests for public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

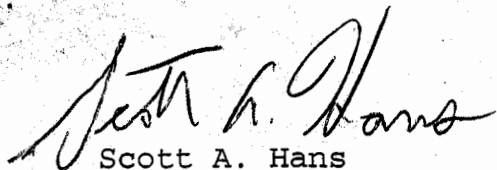
9. EVALUATION: Interested parties are invited to state any objections they may have to the proposed work. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposals must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. The evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR Part 230).

10. RESPONSES: A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest. Written statements concerning the proposed activity should be received in this office on or before the closing date of this Public Notice in order to become a part of the record and to be considered in the final determination. Any objections which are received during this period may be forwarded to the applicant for possible resolution before the determination is made whether to issue or deny the requested DA Permit. All responses to this notice should be directed to the Regulatory Branch, attn Marcia H.

Public Notice No. 03-55

Haberman, at the above address, by telephoning (412) 395-7361, or by e-mail at Marcia.H.Haberman@usace.army.mil. Please refer to CELRP-OR-F 200300884 in all responses.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Scott A. Hans". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Scott" being more prominent.

Scott A. Hans
Chief, Regulatory Branch



SCALE: 1" = 2000'

USGS 7.5' QUADRANGLE
KINGWOOD AND NEWBURG

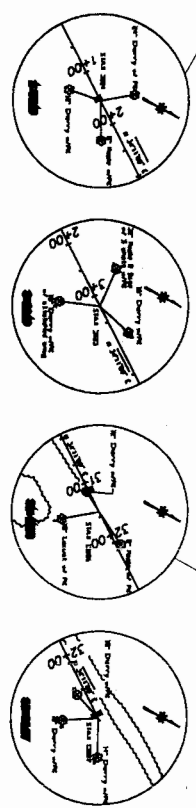
TRIAD

FIGURE NO.

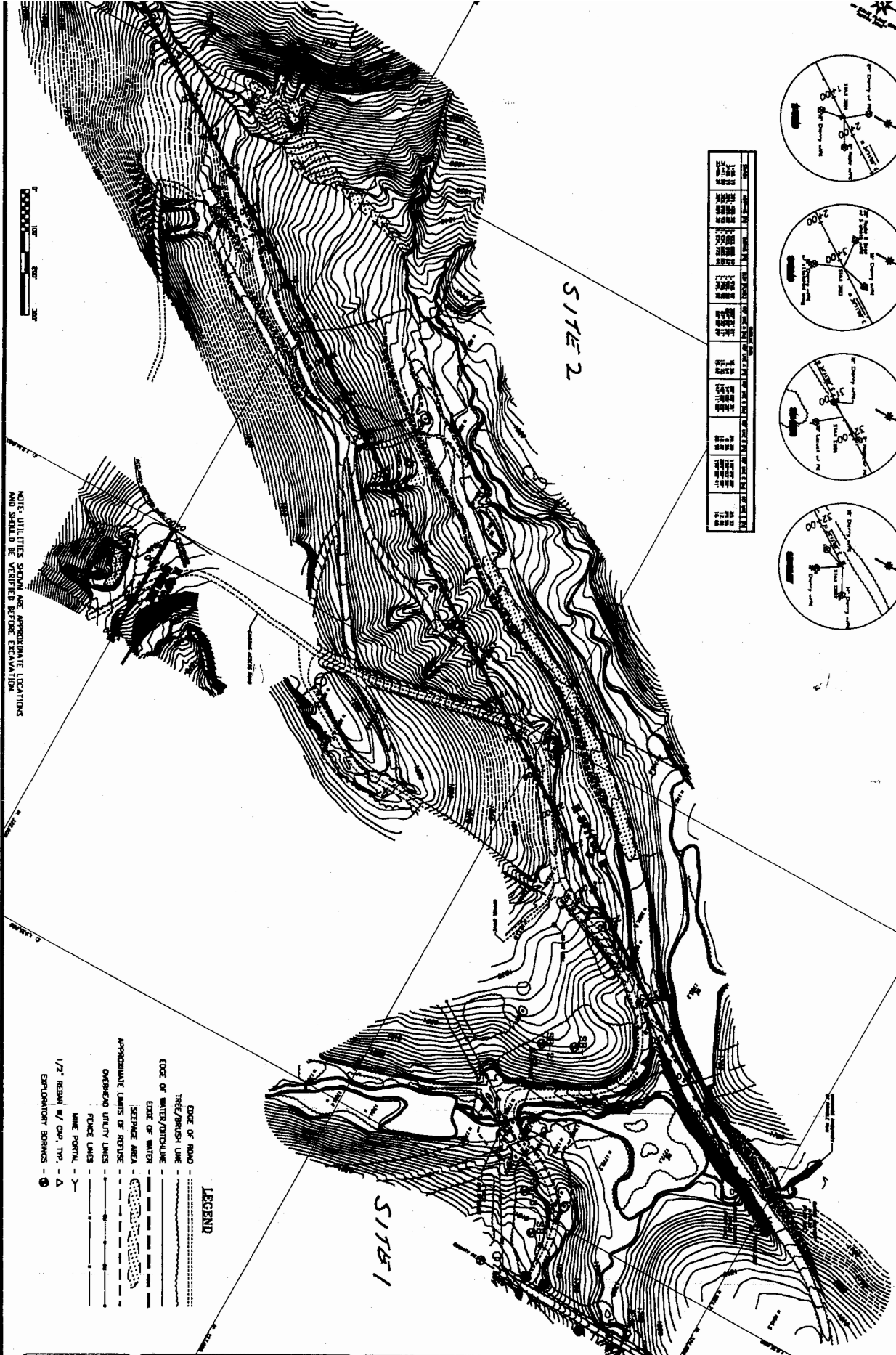
ATCM 1

ATCM 1

200300884



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NOTE: UTILITIES SHOWN ARE APPROXIMATE LOCATIONS AND SHOULD BE VERIFIED BEFORE EXCAVATION.

- LEGEND**
- EDGE OF ROAD - - - - -
 - TRAIL/BRUSH LINE - - - - -
 - EDGE OF WATER/OUTLINE - - - - -
 - EDGE OF WATER - - - - -
 - SCIENCE AREA - - - - -
 - APPROXIMATE LIMITS OF REFUSE - - - - -
 - OVERHEAD UTILITY LINES - - - - -
 - POWER LINES - - - - -
 - LINE PORTAL - - - - -
 - 1/2" REBAR W/ CAP. TYP. - Δ -
 - EXPLOSIONARY BOMBS - B -

SCALE	1"=100'
DRAWING NO.	01451-2
DRAWN	SJM
CHECKED	RSK
DATE	1/30/02

**BLASER REFUSE AND PORTALS
EXISTING SITE PLAN**

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
ABANDONED MINE LANDS & RECLAMATION SECTION

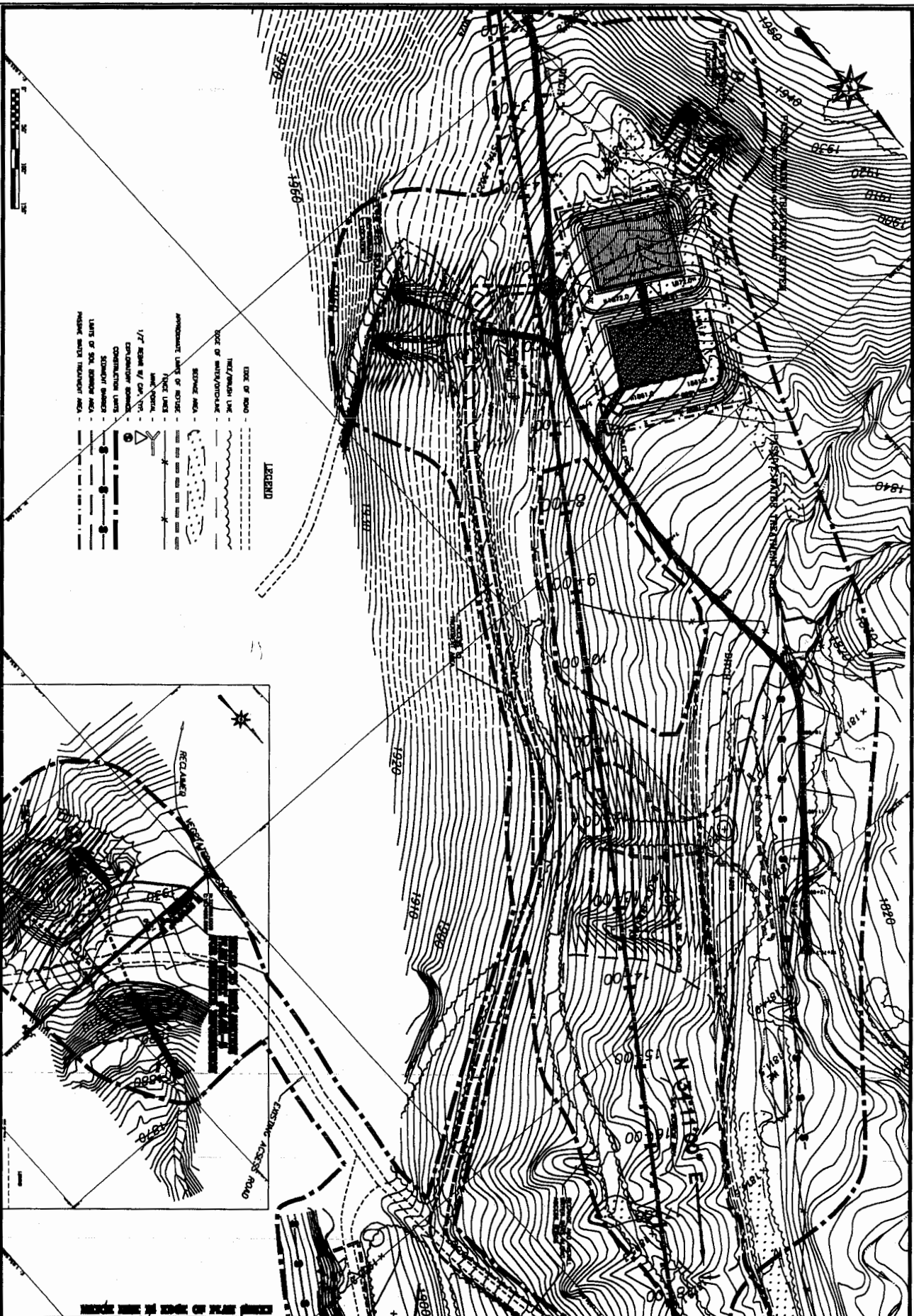
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Engineering,
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ATCH 3

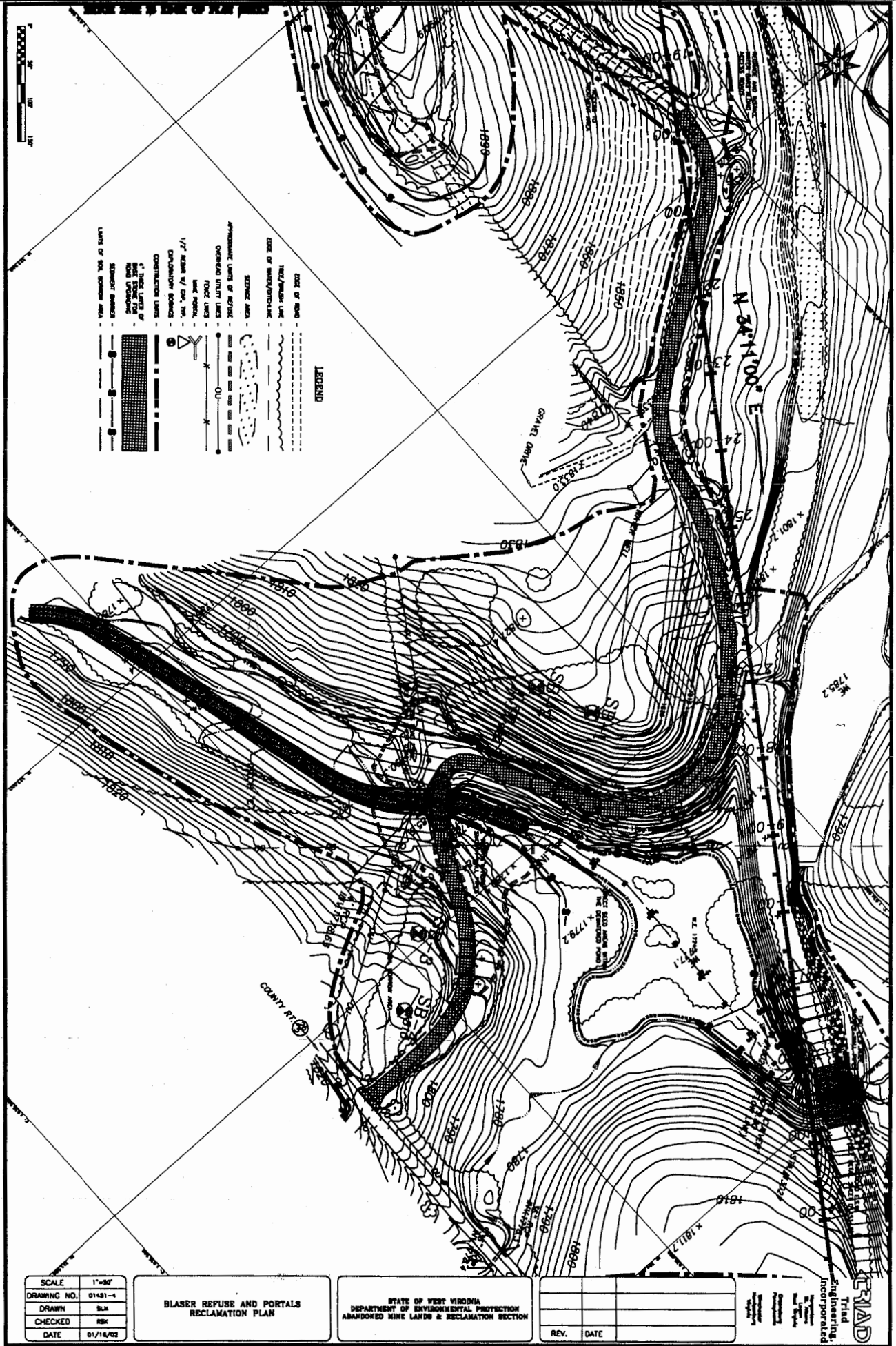


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SITE 2

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ATCH 4

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SITE 1

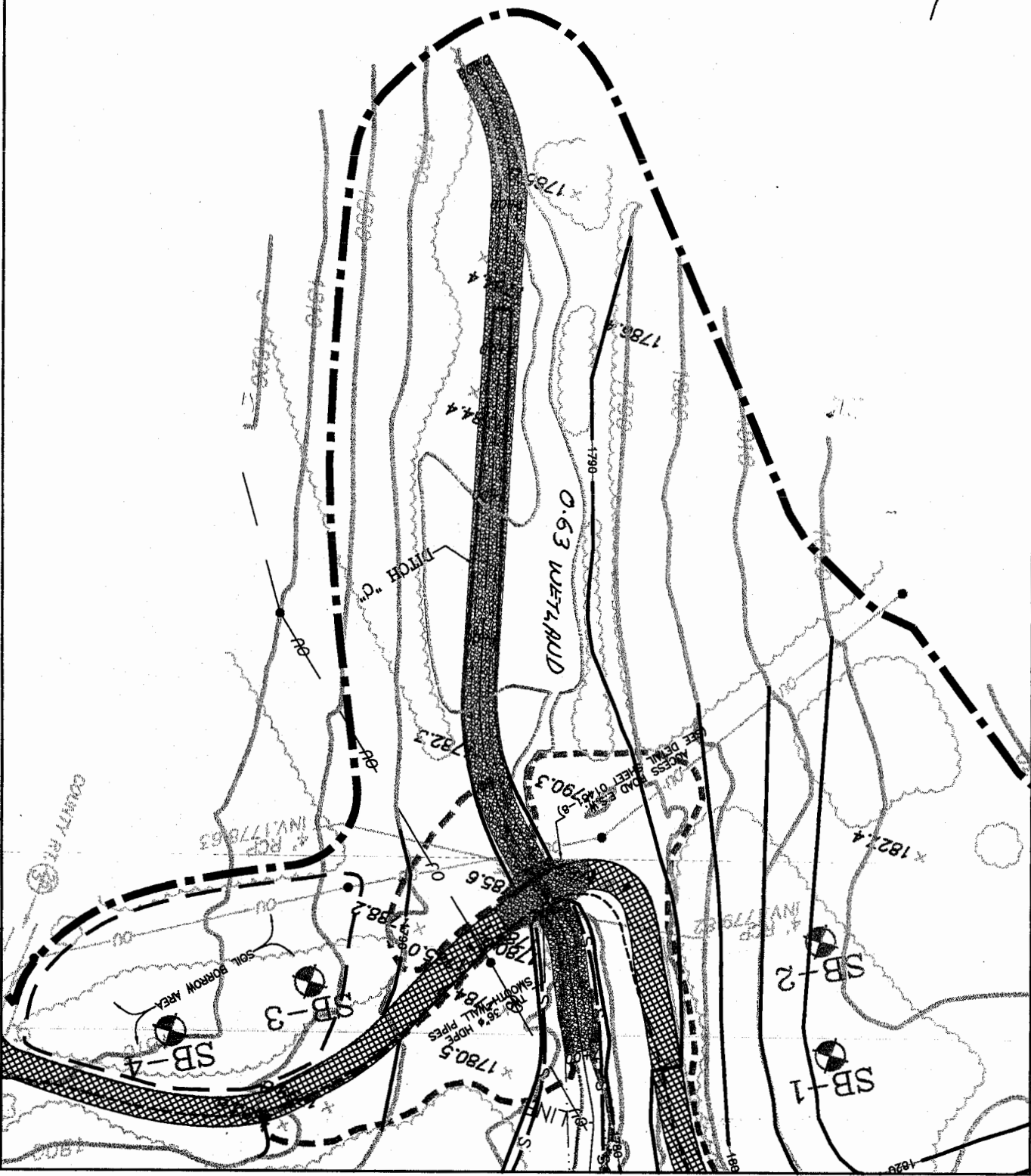


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ATON 5



SCALE: 1" = 100'
0' 100'

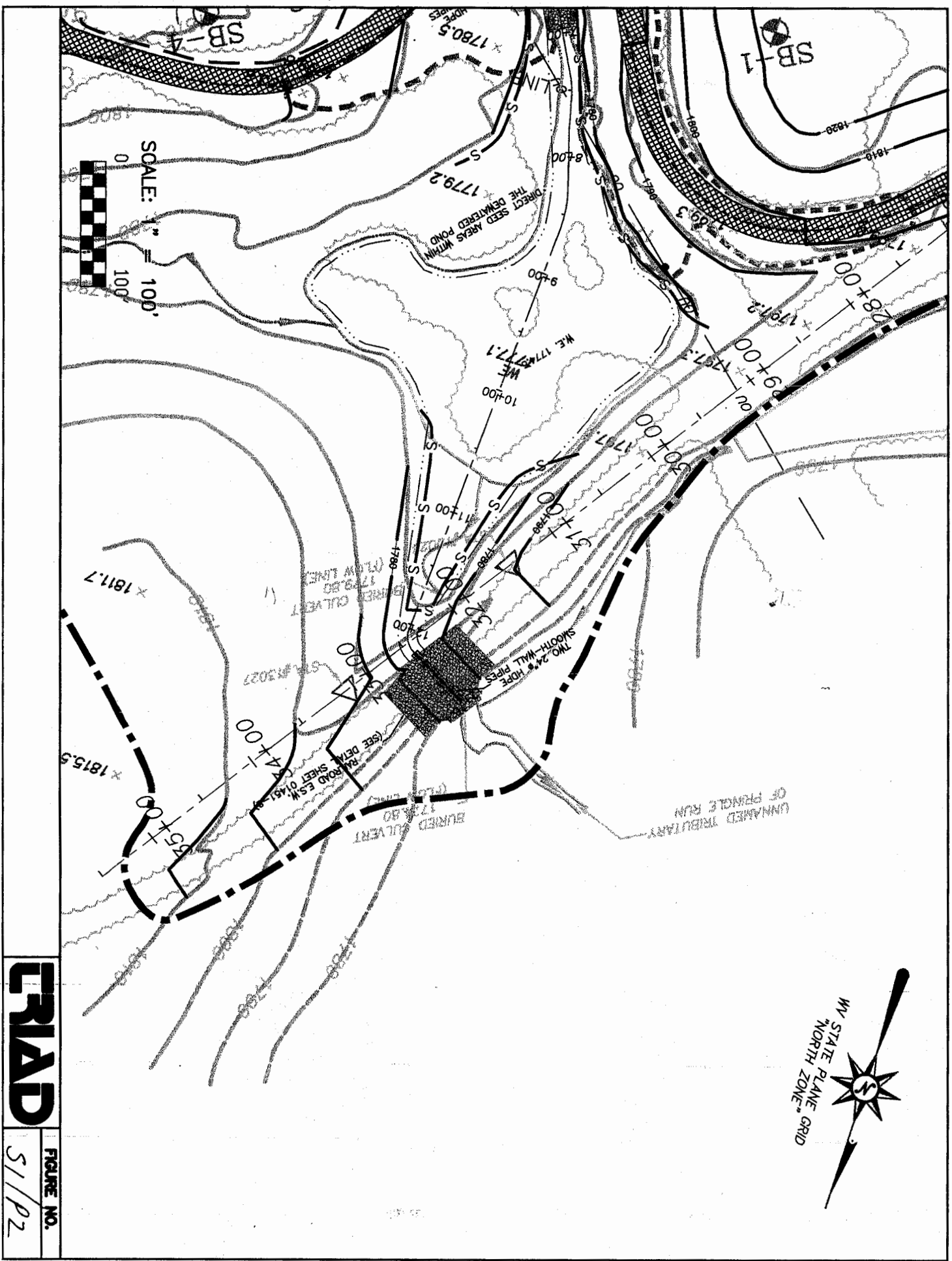


MATCH TO 2

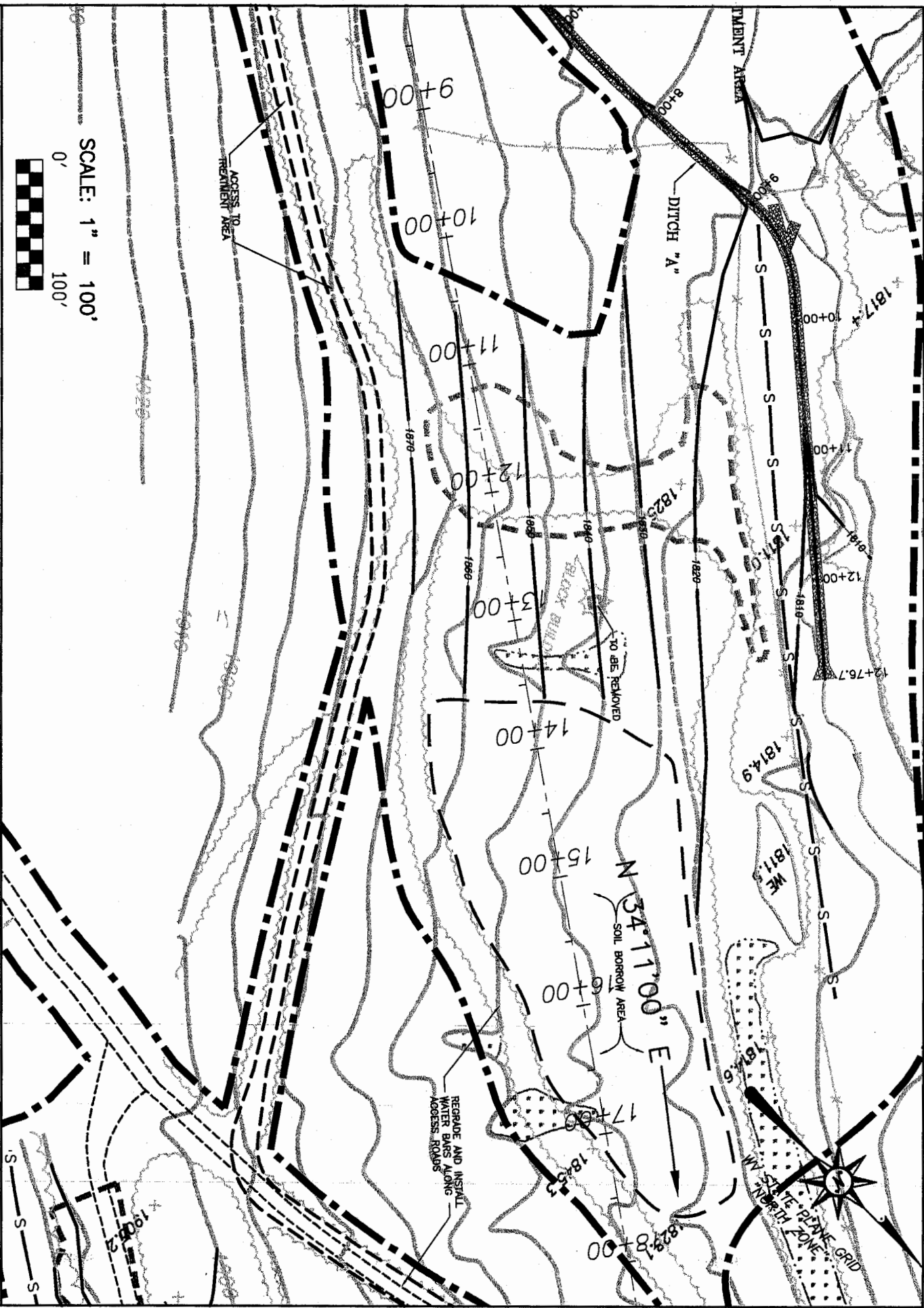
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ATCH 5

200300884 SITE 1

TRIAD
FIGURE NO. 51/P1



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 ATCA 7



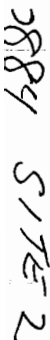
SCALE: 1" = 100'
0' 100'

TRIAD

FIGURE NO.
S2/P1

200300884 SITE 2

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ATW 8



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ATCA9